

Bucs take title and head to Kansas



Kiah Brown knocks down a crucial 3-pointer during the ACCC final at the Umphrey Center.

By **Barret Smith**
Sports Writer

Four, that's the number of games the Bucs have to win in their first NJCAA tournament in the history of the school.

But even if they were to fall short the Bucs have already won the National Junior College District 10 Championship for the first time ever.

A little more than halfway through the season sharp shooting sophomore guard Keith Williamson remarked, "The team's goal right now is to keep progressing so that we

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Beyond champions...



No wonder these folks are happy, for the Buc men's basketball team had just taken the Region X JUCO title from the Georgia representative and are heading for Hutchinson, Kans. to play for the national title. At press time, the Buccaneers were set to play Chipola JC in the first round.

Color Purple author visits Fredd Campus



Photo/Brandon Lovett

Alice Walker answered questions for the students assembled at the Unity Center on the Fredd campus.

As a part of a year-long program, author Alice Walker paid a visit to the C.S. Fredd campus on March 17 for a question-and answer session with local students.

A winner of the esteemed Pulitzer Prize for her novel *The Color Purple*, Wilson spent time conversing with the students and answering questions after being introduced by a man who says his grandmother delivered the

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Women come up short in title game



Holding the second-place trophy, the disappointment among the Lady Buccaneers is impossible to miss. They came up short in the final for the second year in a row.

Seeded first and playing at the top of their game, the Lady Bucs disappointment in the Alabama Community College Conference final reflects perfectly the timeless athletic platitude: that's why we actually play the game.

On paper and in person, the Bucs looked unlikely to be beaten on their home court after having already won over their opponent twice in the regular season, but Gadsden State did not sit still and let the inevitable happen, and they won 78-69.

A day after the loss on March 10, coach Madonna Thompson was just getting her feet back on the ground. "It's been 24 hour hours, so

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- And much more!



Shelton State can put you on the road in eight weeks

Shelton State is offering two truck driver training programs during the 2005 summer semester.

The eight week program in truck driving technology is designed to prepare students for entry level positions in the industry as tractor-trailer drivers or straight truck drivers.

Students in the program participate in classroom, range, city and highway training for their commercial driver's license.

Offered both on the Martin Campus of Shelton State and in Livingston, Ala. on the campus of the University of West Alabama, the truck driver training program is limited to eight students per session.

Sessions are scheduled May 2 through June 24, July 5 through August 26 and Sept. 6 through Oct. 28 at the Livingston campus. Classes begin June 2 at the Tuscaloosa campus.

Upon the completion of the 280 hour program, students successfully taking the commercial driver's license written exam and skills

requirements assessment will receive an operator's license from the Alabama Department of Public Safety and a certificate of completion from Shelton State.

Persons wishing to enroll in the program must have a current Class "D" driver's license with no serious driving violations and must be at least 21 years of age.

A Department of Transportation driver's physical and drug screening is required as well as current moving violations report from the Department of Public Safety.

Tuition for the program is \$2,400 with WIA assistance available for eligible persons. Additional costs for the drug screening and the moving violations report average about \$73.

For additional information or to reserve your space in the next class section, please call Joe Anderson in Livingston at 205/652-3703 or 652-3666 and in Tuscaloosa contact Mike Warren or Mike Tusic at 205/391-2442.



Mike Fields, who heads up the student recruitment program at the college, is interviewed by the media during Shelton's Career Fair March 2. Some 30 companies were on hand to look for potential workers now in Shelton's technical programs. One company affiliated with Mercedes took 40 applications from among the student population.

Spring Break!

March 26-April 1

Woohoo!

ShelTalk

Gimme a break!

By AnTonio Nevels

Don't you love a good party?

Well some aren't much for the party scene but a good portion of the students here do love to go out and have a good time.

There are two things that most students in America look forward to: the holiday season and Spring Break.

We all enjoy a little time from school and relish the opportunity to get away for a while.

"Spring Break is a much needed time off from school," said one Shelton sophomore. "We just need a break to get out and have fun."

Some students are going to some places such as Panama City, Atlanta, Chicago, mission trips to Mexico, and Daytona Beach. According to survey results that were done here recently some students feel that it is the best time ever.

I received one response that I have to share: "I will referee a Cambodian monkey knife fight, naked and under the influence of several intoxicants." That, my friends, is a classic response.

The main thing that students should be aware of is safety.

A while back a high school friend of mine got in some trouble and is doing some serious jail time for it. While most won't do anything of that nature you have to be

careful while you are out having fun.

Things such as robbery and rape often occur during Spring Break so you must take caution and prepare yourselves.

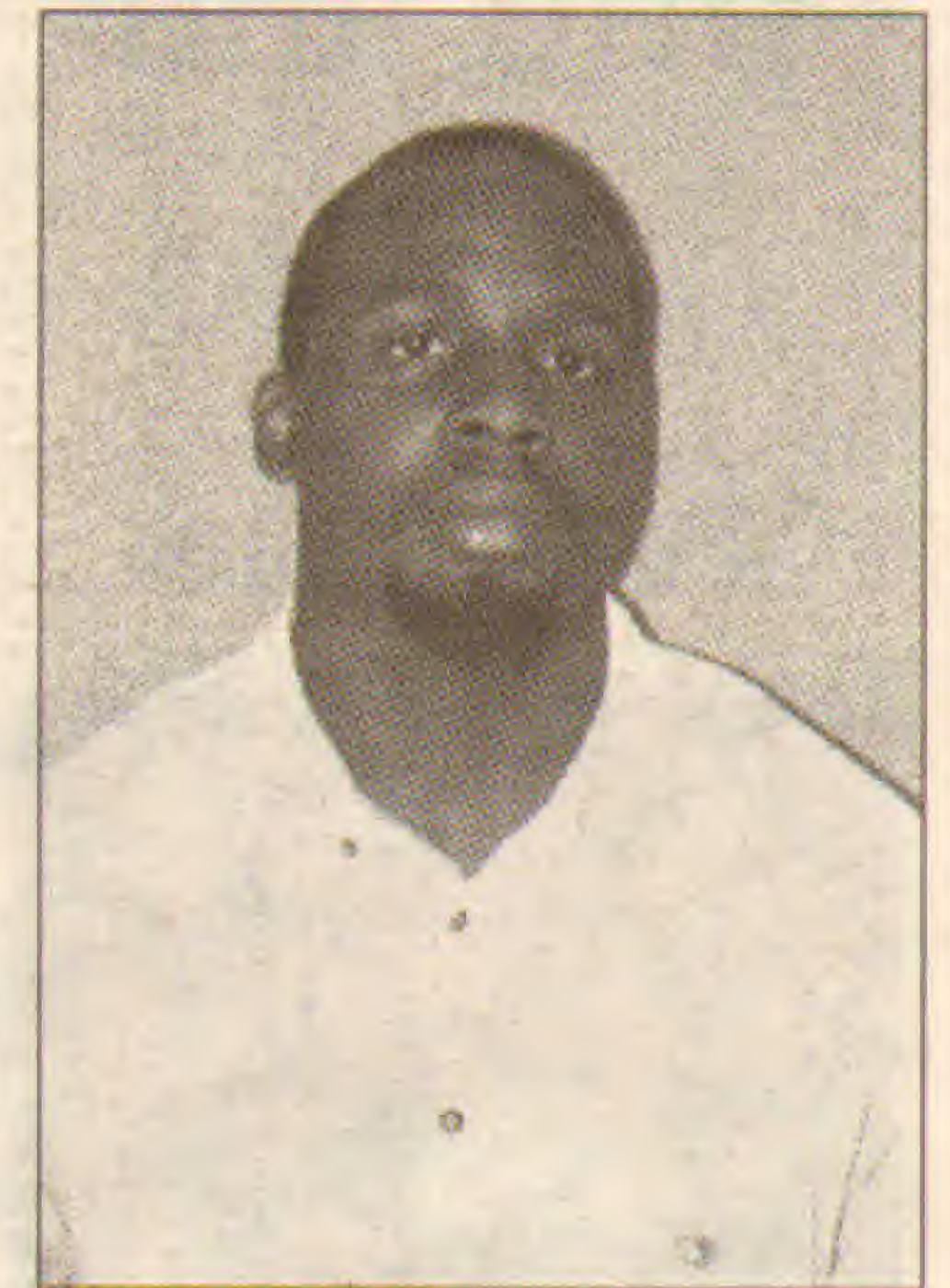
Most would like to be out and having a good time but there are those that can't. They will be doing chores around the house, working, and one student is even having knee surgery (and good luck to her as well).

"I will be working a lot. I never get to do anything because of work," said one individual. I'm sure most of us can identify with that.

Having a good time doesn't necessarily mean you have get drunk and throw up all over yourself.

Parties can be fun without the consumption of alcohol and in some cases drugs. Be smart, have fun, and enjoy yourself.

Just make sure you are back at work or school the following week. Spend your time wisely for it may be your last.



AnTonio Nevels is a sophomore at Shelton State.

Here's what Shelton students had to say about spring break...

54 percent
have plans

46 percent
don't have any plans

11 percent
think Spring Break is overrated

7 percent
just don't care

50 percent
think it is just fine

32 percent
feel that it is the best time ever

Shelton State Courier

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The Shelton State Courier is a campus newspaper, written and produced with the help of students.

Among other functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression, and all students are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

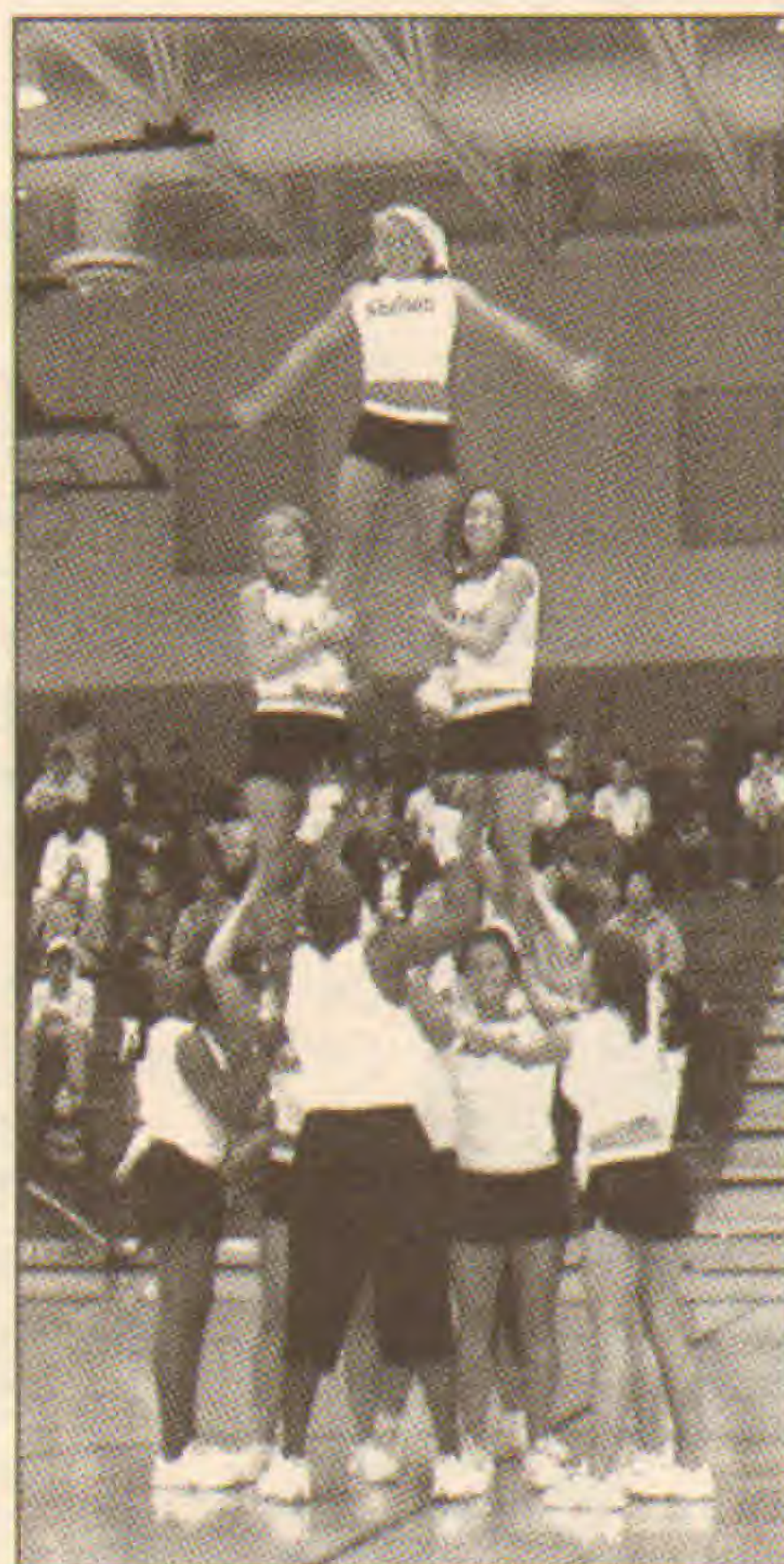
The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic freedom in working

with the students in the production of this paper.

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

The Courier is an equal opportunity employer and student organization. All students are encouraged to participate.

Cheerleaders got their greatest reward at the Lawson game



By Heather Wainwright
Special to the Courier

Just like the basketball teams, the cheerleading squad for Shelton had to grind out its season, having good games and not-so-great games; it was

also affected by injuries. And just like roundballers, the cheerleaders got their payoff at the end of the season.

The season began with a rough stretch when three members were lost from an original allotment of 14. Worst of all, two of the losses were of guys who were going to serve as the base of pyramids the group planned to execute.

The uneven team of, usually, eight women and two men were limited in some of the routines they wanted to do. Soldiering on, however, they acquitted themselves as well as they could.

The tumbling runs of Larry Walker, who usually appeared last during timeouts, proved to be a highlight. Also, the new wardrobe for Capt. Buc and his more active persona proved popular. The team struggled along, hoping to finish with a bang, with a more involved cheering routine.

In their mind and in their

team meetings, the cheerleaders began to point to the Lawson State games of March 3 as an appropriate time to do a full-blown routine, if they were ever to do one at all.

That was the last home game of the regular season and the conference titles would be on the line. It was now or never.

Working out the routine: the dancing, the tumbling and the pyramids before the big day, the cheerleading coordinator, Jo Scarborough, became dubious. "I'm not sure you're ready," she said. Yet the cheerleaders were determined to go on; it was truly now or never, they thought. "We'll just embarrass ourselves, if we have to," they said.

But the Lawson State crowd proved to be the perfect showcase for the plucky troupe. They began with a

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Baseball squad finds home very, very sweet

By Matt Celozzi
Sports Writer

During Shelton State's long stretch on the road early this season, Coach Bobby Sprowl attributed some of the team's adversity to their lack of home games.

Now that the conference part of their schedule has begun, the Bucs (14-1; 6-2 ACCC) find themselves in more familiar territory, and they couldn't be happier. Or at least they're playing like it.

The Bucs have won eight in a row and ten of their last 13 since beginning league play earlier this month. Led by hurler Brett Bowen (3-1 3.60 ERA), the Shelton State pitching staff is coming around just in time to complement an already dangerous offense.

Never was this mix of offense and defense more prevalent than Saturday, when the Bucs squared off with

rival Central Alabama for a pair of conference duels.

In Game One, freshman pitcher Jared Bradford, after spotting Central an early one-nothing lead, settled down to toss six innings, giving up four hits and only two earned runs while punching out four.

Ben Daw went two-for-two with an RBI and Brian Hasty chipped in with a two-for-three day. Shelton went on to a 6-2 victory.

In Game Two, Coach Sprowl had the Bucs firing on all cylinders. Shelton jumped out to an early five-nothing lead in the second when Sophomore Adam Keenum ripped a double that scored two.

Freshman Brad Alexander followed suit with two RBIs of his own coming off a line drive home run to left field.

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Gracias



Cheerleaders

From Page 3

rippled stunt sequence, where one maneuver led to another.

Forming diamonds and pyramids with full-up cuppies (a male cheerleader holds up a female with one arm) to liberties (a group with arms extended supporting one cheerleader), the crowd began to warm-up more and more.

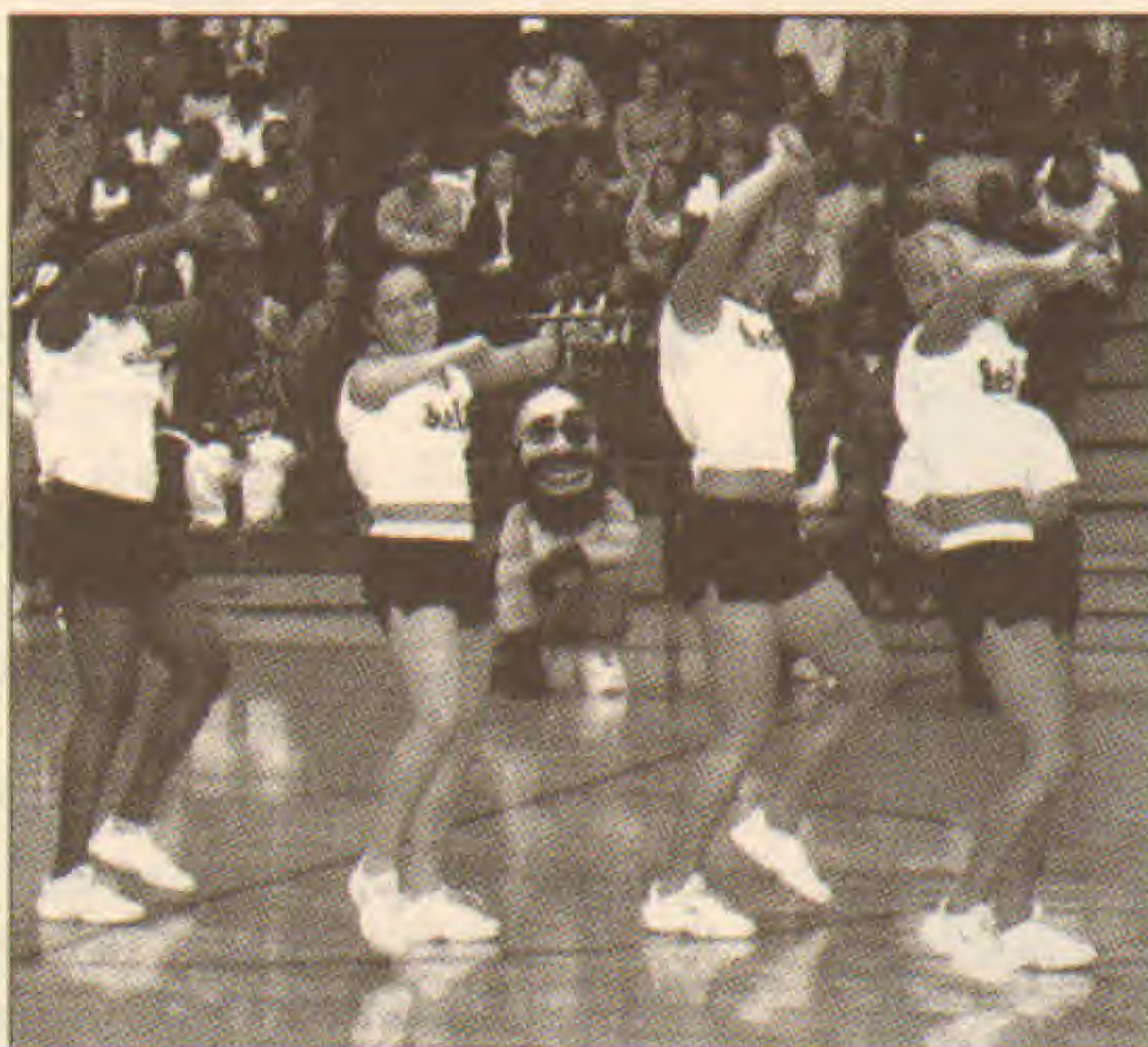
Then the women took over. Dancing to the choreography of squad member Destiny Perry, the women in their tied-off tee-shirts boogied to the powerful beat of seven or eight sampled rap tunes in rapid succession.

The crowd, especially across the Umphrey Center in the Lawson section, truly went wild, hollering, cheering and screaming.

Stretching across the whole of the basketball floor, the cheerleaders then tumbled for all they were worth, with a seeming extra snap brought on by the enthusiasm of the crowd.

Going diagonally left and right, and finishing with a frenzied burst of lay-outs and twists by Walker, the cheerleaders resembled kung-fu fighters doing a fearsome martial arts routine.

With just the right touch of humor,



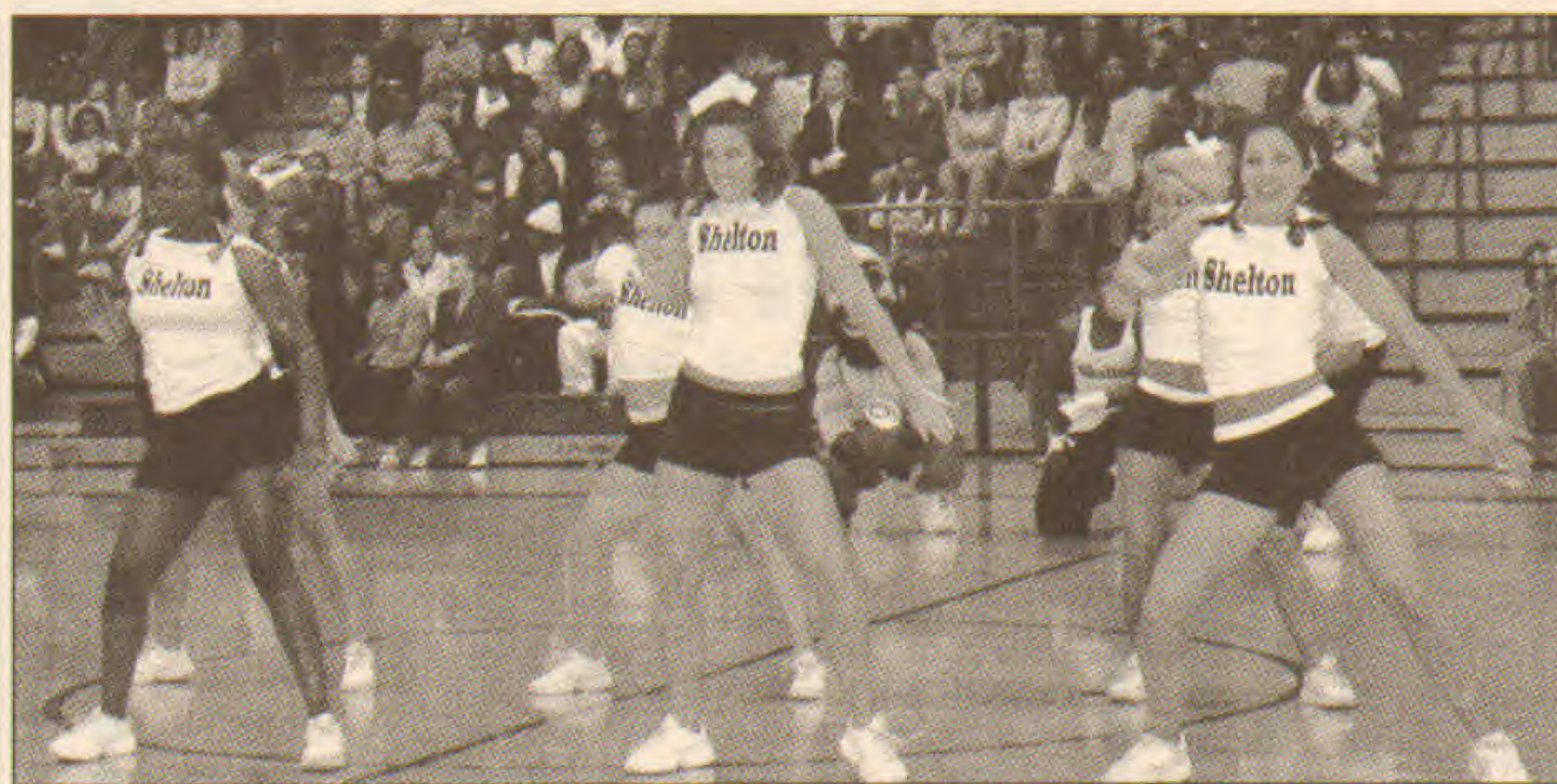
at just the right moment, Capt. Buc sailed across the sideline with a boat the anonymous life-force inhabiting the Capt. had taken a month to build.

One more spate of sassy dancing and the whole troupe gathered at mid-court to thunderous applause and joyful screams.

The cheerleaders went on to perform the routine three more times during the basketball play-offs, and each time it was very well received.

But it was never more riotously embraced as it was that one magical night against Lawson.

The cheerleading squad for this year is Larry Walker, Lance Jones, Tiffany Perry, Trey Oswalt, Destiny Perry, Summer Stone, Brandi Burgess, Stephanie Snyder, Crystal Howell, Heather Wainwright and Cari Fowler.



Walker

From Page 1

author as a midwife, Special assistant to the President former Stillman College president Dr. Cordell Wynn.

"This is Alice Walker," Wynn said. "My homey."

Over the course of the two-hour meeting, Walker touched on many topics, including her love of the South. After her opening statement, Walker fielded questions from students. A Tuskegee University student asked Walker about hip-hop music's ties to black history.

"The pounding sound of hip hop

is people saying this is where we are and that we've lost a lot of our tenderness," stated Walker. "The loudness is because we feel like we haven't been heard."

The author continued by saying that students should be proud to get an education, and that doing well in school would not be construed as "acting white."

Walker's message was apparently not lost on the students.

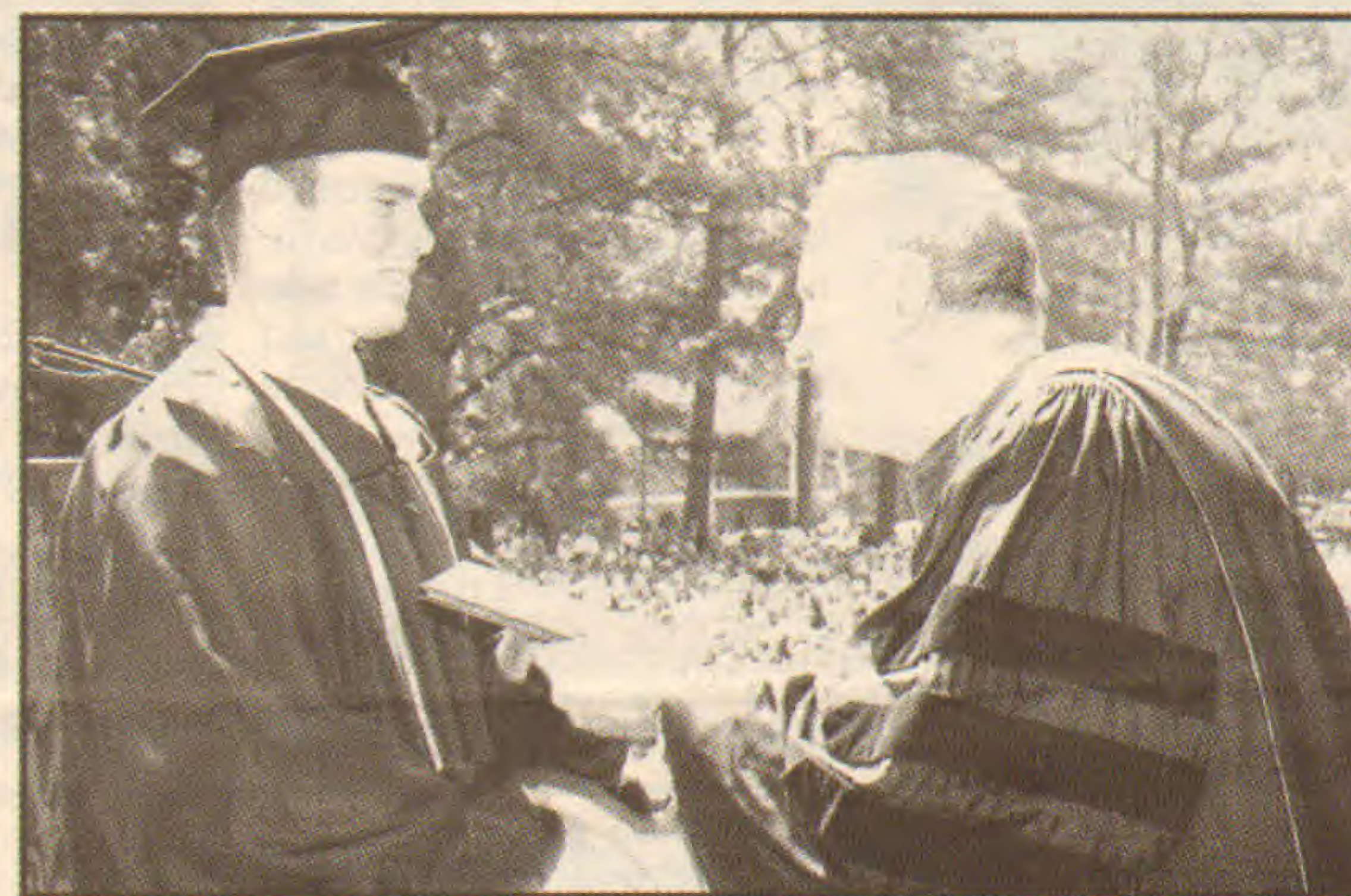
"A lot of times we look at people who are big and famous as being too big, but she's just like me." Said 10th grader Dyamond Borland. "I look at her and see she's been through the same things I've been through."



Commencement at Flowerhill, spring 2004

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you're going.*

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Just try it: Area offers broad choices for Break

By Elizabeth White
Staff Writer

Spring Break is around the corner! Have you made your plans yet?

Options for the up and coming vacation are countless. If you are like me, the spring trip bug often bites at the last minute, leaving you with the desire to go out and have fun, but no where to find adventure.

With just a little thought, anywhere can house your exciting week away. Here are just a few of the many possibilities:

One small getaway is Cloudmont, Alabama's only snow-ski resort. By the time Spring

Break rolls around, ski season will have passed. Cloudmont, however, offers more than just ski slopes.

Not only do they have an expansive golf course, but they own the nearby Shady Grove Dude Ranch. Here, fishing, horseback riding, storytelling, and camping among other various activities are offered.

Horseback riding begins at \$15. With larger groups, a few days notice, and \$30 per person, breakfast and dinner rides can be set up. Golf fees range from \$7 to \$8 for nine holes, depending on the time of the week. Additionally, the full 18 hole course runs between \$9 and \$10. Cart and club rentals are also available.

Accommodations are reasonably priced, with cabins for up to five costing only \$65 (plus tax) per night. Cabins for larger groups are also available at a higher price. Alternatively, chalets scattered around the golf course offer further housing for about the same cost.

Additional information can be obtained from <http://www.cloudmont.com>.

Whether you're over 21 or younger, Pearl River Resort offers a beachless but fun alternative to Spring Break. Including spas, concerts (although at this time the box

office is unable to give any information on upcoming shows), and golfing—not to mention their fabulous casinos—Pearl Rivers of Choctaw, Miss. offers a variety of entertainment.

Students of all ages can stay at Pearl River's hotel accommodations; you don't have to be 21 or older to enjoy the bulk of their activities, either.

With weekday rates of \$79 and weekend prices jumping to \$144, the prices can be a little steep for a college wallet, although up to four can stay in a single room.

A full list of information can be found at

<http://www.pearlriverresort.com> or by calling (866) 44PEARL.

For country music fans or just those interested in a change, Nashville, Tenn. offers more than enough to keep you entertained. Nashville houses many popular tourist attractions, such as the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Grand Ole Opry. Setting these aside, Nashville also has a couple of offbeat options sure to please even the non-country music fans.

A Saturday night at Miss Marple's Dinner Theatre, for example, is sure to please. With a flat fee of \$50 (no tipping) guests watch a mystery of murder and betrayal and help solve a crime while they eat an evening meal. A synopsis of the current script, "The Reading of the Western Will" can be found at <http://www.missmarples.com>, and reservations via credit card can be made by calling (615) 242-8000.

Hotels, restaurants, and other information can be found by visiting <http://www.nashville.com>.

Although many beaches have taken a hard blow from the hurricanes late last year, there's still more than enough sun and sand for the hard-core beach fan. Gulf Shores is just one of the many available.



World-class casinos, live entertainment and international cuisine, championship golf and one of the South's largest water theme park can be found at Pearl River Resort.

The number of condos, camp sites, and hotels are as expansive as the waters of the gulf.

A concern many have with Alabama beaches, however, is with the damages caused by hurricane Ivan.

The Alabama Gulf Coast Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) offers frequent updates on the status of both

Gulf Shores and Orange Beach. As of the March 8, 2005: 51 percent of the accommodations, 73 percent of the attractions, 78 percent of the cruises and/or charters, 100 percent of the golf courses, 100 percent of the marinas, 81 percent of the shops, and 66 percent of the restaurants are open for business.

Accommodations are more limited this year, but there are a couple of resources available for the more serious beachers.

Visiting <http://www.gulfshores.com/accommodations/availability.asp> allows you to search through multiple forms of housing, such as condos, campgrounds, and hotels, and check for room availability at the times you need.

Kaiser Realty, a leading realtor for Gulf Shores and Orange Beach, also proves to be of great assistance. You can call their reservation line and check for condo availability (and make your reservations if you are so inclined) at

(800) 225-4853.

With a quick phone call, anyone's Spring Break can be fulfilling; with a little imagination, the possibilities are endless.

Whether you prefer laying on the golden sand of the beach, or camping out in the woods of your friend's backyard, there's entertainment to be found somewhere.

May your Spring Break be a well-earned vacation from the rigors of Shelton State.



A great getaway is closer than you think. A visit to Gulf Shores and Orange Beach offers the perfect balance of non-stop activity and lay-around-doing-nothing time.



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Disappointment From Page 1

I'm starting to get over it, but it was tough," she said.

What added to the blow was that the team was involved in a classic "barn-burner" just the night before.

The spectacle of the hard-fought victory over Wallace State of Hanceville had the large Umphrey Center crowd for the final buzzing with anticipation.

Surely the make-or-break game was now behind them, for the Buccaneers had lost twice to the Hanceville Lions. The third time would be the charm though.

The Bucs pulled out the victory behind a scintillating 44-point performance by highly recruited guard Kiana Robinson.

Dropping in rafter-rattling 3-pointers alternated with slashing drives to the basket, Robinson never looked better.

Yet the Lions would not fold. With eight lead changes and 10 ties and eye-popping play on both sides, the Shelton coach for one had never seen anything quite like it.

"It was great," Thompson said to the press. "It was one of the best games I've ever been involved with."

It took Robinson's best to keep the home team ahead, moreover, for she had 15 at halftime and the Bucs clung to

only a 2-point lead, 41-39.

Robinson played very well in the final also. She scored 13 above her season average, tallying 30.

But where she was just magical in the previous game, she was merely great for the *coup de grace*.

The whole Shelton team just seemed to have its shots roll off the rim while Gadsden's would slip in.

"We had a great run and a great year, but we just got outplayed," Thompson told the media after the game. "Two years the sophomores have ended up in second place."



Kiana Robinson was named to the all-region team, the all tournament team and the MVP of the ACCC tourney.



Madonna Thompson was named the ACCC women's coach of the year for 2005.



Christie Ayers from Pearl City, Hawaii was named to the ACCC all-tournament team.

by Robert Harling

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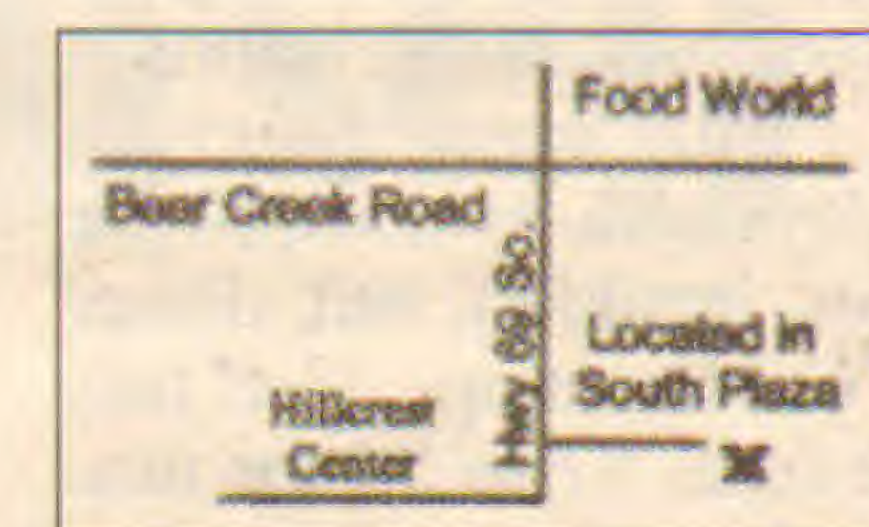
Shear Artistry



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Title

From Page 1

peak come playoff time."

I don't think Keith Williamson or any of his teammates could have predicted that they would be peaking the way that they have.

All of the Bucs are playing their best ball of the season but especially team leader Tarrance Crump who was already playing at a high level



Leonard Scott was named to the all-tournament team after his hard-nose play under the basket during Shelton's cham-

MVP.

Leonard Scott and Quinn Beckwith also received all-tournament honors.

In arguably the biggest basketball game in the history of the Bucs program against

Quinn Beckwith was named to the all-tournament team after the Buccaneer's ACCC victory in the final.

has elevated his play to a somewhat unexpected and awe-inspiring level to earn him the ACCC tournament



Tarrance Crump was named to the all-regional team, the all-tournament team and MVP.



Barry Mohun was named the ACCC coach of the year for 2005. Commissioner Al Cox made the presentations.

Georgia Technical College in the District 10 Championship, Tarrance Crump turned in what may have been the best performance of his college career to date.

Crump finished the game with 29 points of an astounding 11-16 shooting and 6 for 6 from the free throw line.

This performance also included a one handed fade away from about five feet out

that to many was Sports Center worthy.

"Tarrance has really picked his game up down the stretch, he's fun to watch and just makes our job a lot easier. I just hope he can keep it going for four more games," said Coach Barry Mohun.

Before the state and district playoffs began, Crump had already begun fielding offers from the likes of Purdue and Auburn but now I imagine he may need to make sure he has two mail boxes to field all the offers if he continues to perform this well in the national tournament.

Even besides Crump the perimeter game of the Bucs has really stepped it up at the right time with Quinn Beckwith going 5 for 8 from behind the arc in the district final and Keith Williamson also hitting several big shots just when the opposing team had started to make a run.

The Bucs are 28-6 on the season counting the playoffs and have won four straight after losing their final regular season game to Lawson State.

The Bucs will play in the first round of the National tournament on Tuesday, March 22 against Chipola, the winner from Florida. This game will be played in Hutchinson Kansas at 2:30 p.m.

Baseball

From Page 3

Freshman pitcher Jake Edwards (1-0, 2.61 ERA), who seemed to barely break a sweat, chugged along through four and one-third innings, surrendering only one earned run on five hits while striking out three.

When it was all said and done, Shelton had earned itself a 12-1 win, and an eight game win streak.

Overall, the Bucs are 10-2 at home this season, and Coach Sprowl seems pleased

with the product he's putting out on the field right now.

"Our pitching is finally coming around to where we want it to be, and we're hitting well up and down the lineup. I think we're heading in the right direction, but there's still a long way to go."

Shelton plays Jefferson State at home on Thursday, and comes back the following Wednesday to take on Wallace-Hanceville. Coach Sprowl and the Bucs are looking forward to a continued home-field advantage the rest of the season, and urge students to attend.

15th Annual Health Fair to be Held March 22

Shelton State will host its annual health fair on Tuesday, March 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Wellness Center on the Martin Campus. Admission to the fair is free and open to the public. All faculty, staff, students and friends in the community are invited to attend this showcase of healthy living.

The Wellness Center has been holding the fair since 1990. In addition to fitness demonstrations from local fitness clubs, sports clubs, and the Wellness Center, there will be a fitness demonstration from noon to 1 p.m.



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Chemist Rick Wagner makes use of the Shelton facilities during the annual Boy Scout Merit Badge College session March 19.

Summer 2005

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